

Remarks

The various parts of the Office Action (and other matters, if any) are discussed below under appropriate headings.

Allowable Subject Matter

The allowance of claims 1-15 and 18-22 is noted with appreciation.

Telephone Interview

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Chao for his courtesy during several telephone interviews. During the telephone interviews, possible amendments to claim 16 were discussed for overcoming the rejection under 35 USC § 101. An agreement, however, was not reached.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 16 has been canceled and thus the rejection is moot.

Accordingly, the application is believed to be in a condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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